

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

L-03 DODE-00 AID-05 /053 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/LA/EP:SCHERNENKOFF

APPROVED BY ARA/LA/EP:JFKING

ARA/LA/EP:RWEBER (DRAFT)

ARA/LA/EP/E:WSCLARKE (DRAFT)

ARA-LA:GBROWN (DRAFT)

S/NM:CBUCK (DRAFT)

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R 162205Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140671

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EC, SNAR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR HELICOPTERS

REF: QUITO 3587

1. PER PARA 6 REFTTEL, DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED FOR PROCUREMENT OF HELICOPTERS UNDER LIMITED AND UNIQUE CONDITIONS WHERE HELICOPTERS ARE MOST APPROPRIATE MEANS OF COMBATTING ILLICIT NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND TRAFFIC. COUNTRIES WHERE THIS HAS OCCURRED INCLUDE MEXICO, BURMA AND THAILAND.

2. DEPARTMENT VIEWS ECUADOR AS IMPORTANT TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC AND DOES NOT SEE NEED FOR HELICOPTERS IN THIS CONTEXT. IN MEXICO, FOR EXAMPLE, HELICOPTERS ARE USED TO MOVE TROOPS INTO REMOTE AREAS FOR
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ERADICATION, NOT FOR INTERDICTION. IN ALL CASES,

HELICOPTERS HAVE BEEN THE ONLY EFFICIENT MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION INTO ISOLATED AND INACCESSIBLE REGIONS WHERE OPIUM IS BEING CULTIVATED OR TRAFFICKED. WE SEE THE ECUADOR SITUATION BETTER HANDLED BY INCREASING EMPHASIS ON MORE CONVENTIONAL APPROACHES TO NARCOTICS PROBLEMS AND BASIC IMPROVEMENT IN ITS INTERDICTION EFFORTS WHICH CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH MORE TRADITIONAL ANTI-SMUGGLING

TECHNIQUES NOT REQUIRING EXPENSIVE AND HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT. THUS, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO PROVIDE HELICOPTERS TO ECUADOR FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. OF COURSE, IF GOE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING HELICOPTERS ON COMMERCIAL TERMS WITH OWN FUNDS, DEPARTMENT PREPARED TO ASSIST IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 16 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Drafter: SCHERNENKOFF
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: SNAR, EC, DEA
To: QUITO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006